

CONTRIBUTORS - FORUM 3

MAY 31, 2002

Omar Azfar (Author)

Omar Azfar is a Research Associate at the IRIS Center. He has worked on decentralization, both related to implementation as well as econometrically. An expert on the institutional approach to corruption, Dr. Azfar has managed IRIS's cooperative agreement with USAID on governance and growth in 1998 and 1999. Additionally, Professor Azfar has published several articles on incentives within firms, experimental economics, and corruption.

Joseph Battat (Discussant)

Joseph Battat is the Manager of the Foreign Investment Advisory Service (FIAS), a joint facility of the International Finance Corporation and the World Bank. Formerly, he was the FIAS Program Manager for a number of regions, including Europe, the Former Soviet Union, China, the Middle East and North Africa. FIAS advises governments on how to enhance and promote the foreign direct investment environment in their country to attract more and more beneficial foreign direct investment. Previous to his current position, Joseph Battat was a professor of International Business at the School of Business, Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, USA, and a Marketing Systems Engineer for IBM in Montreal, Canada. In the late 1970s and 1980s, he worked with the Chinese Government to establish the first MBA program in China. He also helped set up the International Management Center in Budapest, the first market-oriented management education institution in Hungary.

Albert Berry (Discussant)

Albert Berry is a Professor of Economics at the University of Toronto and Research Director of the Programme on Latin America and the Caribbean at the University's Centre for International Studies. Professor Berry's main research areas, which focus on Latin America, are labor markets and income distribution (with attention to the impacts of the recent economic reforms in Latin America), the economics of small and medium enterprise, and agrarian structure and policy. He recently directed an analysis of economic policy for Pakistan's next 15 years.

Charles Cadwell (Moderator)

As Director of IRIS since its founding in 1990, Mr. Cadwell shared with Mancur Olson the responsibility for establishing IRIS's research and project profile. Following Olson's death in 1998 the University named Cadwell to lead the continued expansion of IRIS activities. A lawyer with long experience in reform of economic regulation in the US, Cadwell has focused his own work at IRIS on the evolution of legal and judicial institutions, economic governance and local capacity for economic analysis of institutional reforms. Among current interests are policies related to self-regulation in Russia, and the role of NGO's in situations of a weak state.



Forum Series on the Role of Institutions in Promoting Growth

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Avner Greif (Discussant)

Avner Greif is a Professor of Economics at Stanford University, where he holds the Bowman Family Endowed Professor in Humanities & Sciences. An expert on Institutional Economics and development history, Dr. Greif has published extensively on these issues. Along with Robert Bates, Margaret Levi, Jean-Laurent Rosenthal, and Barry Weingast, Dr. Greif is one of the originators of the analytic narrative method. He also co-edits “Comparative Institutional Analysis” for the MIT press; the *Journal of Economic History*, *The Economic Journal*, and “Economics, Cognition, and Society” for the University of Michigan Press.

Jeffrey Nugent (Keynote Speaker)

Jeffrey Nugent is a Professor of Economics at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. As a co-author of *Fulfilling the Export Potential of Small and Medium Firms*, Dr. Nugent is a world-renowned expert on the obstacles that hinder SMEs from capturing their share of the gains from trade. In addition to his expertise on SMEs, Dr. Nugent has also written books on *New Institutional Economics and Development: Theory and Applications to Tunisia* and *Economics of Development*. Finally, under the auspices of a variety of grants, Dr. Nugent has conducted field research throughout the developing and developed world.

Pablo Spiller (Discussant)

Pablo Spiller is the Joe Shoong Professor of International Business at the Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley, currently on leave as Special Assistant to the Director, Bureau of Economics, Federal Trade Commission. He has been Chair of the Haas Business and Public Policy Group for the last five years. He has also been a member of the Board of the American Law & Economics Association. His current research explores the role institutions play in society. A major focus of this research is the role of institutions in providing credibility to regulatory and other policies. His most recent research focused on developing a theory of Institutions and Public Policy Determination. This project was applied to Argentina, and will come out as a book. Dr. Spiller also studies how regulations arise and how these, in turn, affect the incentives of business. On this front, Dr. Spiller has devoted particular attention to telecommunications, energy and airlines.

Clifford Zinnes (Author and Forums Project Director)

Clifford Zinnes is the Director of Research Coordination at the IRIS Center and Affiliate Professor at the University of Maryland's School of Public Affairs, teaching courses on institutions, governance, and economic development. Professor Zinnes has published widely on institutional economics, both theory and practice, in the economics literature. As an economic policy advisor, Professor Zinnes has designed and implemented NIE solutions to a myriad of economic reform programs in over twenty countries on five continents. He is also currently focusing on corruption and renewable resource management.



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